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Office of Legislative Counsel

Monday - 27 July 1953

1. Mr. Robert Morris, Counsel to the Senate Investigating Committee, called to request an expression of CIA's views on releasing the CIA testimony which the Subcommittee had taken in Executive Session on the Davies case to Mr. R. W. Scott McLeod, Director of Security of the Department of State. Mr. Morris stated that Mr. McLeod would handle the material with appropriate safeguards. He stated further that the Subcommittee was planning to consider this request at its meeting on Thursday and was inclined to consider the request favorably but wanted an expression of CIA's views. Mr. Morris said Committee thinking was that a review of the material by Mr. McLeod might serve to accomplish Committee purposes in a more secure fashion than taking action through the Department of Justice. The statute of limitations is believed to run out on the case on 8 August. It is recommended that General Smith's views be sought in this matter, although it should be noted that it would probably accrue to CIA's advantage in good will if we authorized the Subcommittee to release the testimony to Mr. McLeod, and then let its ultimate use be controlled in the Department of State. I told Mr. Morris I would try to have an expression of CIA views on 28 July.

State Dept. review completed